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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
Richard A. Hynes) Before the Examiner
Serial No.: 10/099,797) Michael B. Priddy
Filed: March 15, 2002)
June 1, 2004)
SPINAL FIXATION SYSTEM AND)
RELATED METHODS)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In response to the communication dated May 4, 2004, indicating that the prior reply to the Office Action dated January 8, 2004 was bona fide but not fully responsive, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following. No extensions of time are believed necessary, and no fees are believed to be due. If any extensions of time or fees are deemed necessary, please grant such extensions or charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 1 June 2004.

Christopher A. Brown
Name of Registered Representative
Christopher A. Brown
Signature
1 June 2004
Date of Signature